Well Name: G.P. A-3

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

APPLICANT: Ashland Exploration, Inc.)

RELIEF SOUGHT: FORCED POOLING

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: UNIT G.P.A-3 ) DOCKET NUMBER:
KNOX DISTRICT ) VGOB-92/12/15-0298

BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

(SEE DESCRIPTION HEREIN AND MAP AND PLAT ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBITS A and B

NOTICE: This application shall come on for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board at a meeting to be held on the 15th day of December, 1992, in Abingdon, Virginia, on the Hillman Highway.

# APPLICATION:

## 1. Parties.

1.1 Applicant herein is Ashland Exploration,
Inc., ("Ashland") a corporation, whose address for the purposes
hereof is P. O. Box 391, Ashland, Kentucky, 41101. Telephone:
606-329-3333. The attorney for Applicant is J. Grant McGuire,
Suite 1400, Coal Exchange Building, 401 Eleventh Street, P. O.
Box 1835, Huntington, West Virginia, 25719. Telephone: 304-5292391.

1.2 The tract which is the subject matter of this application is known as Unit G.P.A-3 (the "Unit") as hereafter

described and is depicted on the map and plat attached respectively as Exhibits A and B. The names and last-known addresses of each gas, oil, coal and mineral owner identified by Applicant as owning an interest in the gas, oil, coal and minerals underlying the Unit are set forth in Exhibit "C" attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Every individual or entity having an interest in the gas underlying the tracts in the Unit located in Knox District is made a party to this application, whether known or unknown. Each of the individuals named in Exhibit "C" is being made a party if living; if any such individual is deceased, then the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees and assigns, both immediate and remote, of any such deceased individual are made parties hereto. Any entity listed in Exhibit "C" that is a corporation is being made a party if such entity continues to have legal existence, and if any such corporation is dissolved, then the unknown successors, trustees and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such dissolved corporation are made parties herein. Any entity listed in Exhibit "C" that is an unincorporated association is being made a party if such entity continues to have legal existence, and if any such unincorporated association is dissolved or otherwise not in existence, then the unknown successors, trustees and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such unincorporated association are made parties herein

1.3 Applicant has exercised due diligence to locate each of the persons and entities listed on Exhibit "C" owning interests in the gas, oil, coal and minerals underlying the tracts in the Unit. The parties named in Exhibit "D" are the gas owners who have not agreed to pool their interests in the Unit. Applicant has attached an affidavit of due diligence as Exhibit "E". Applicant will deposit into an interest-bearing escrow account as required by Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361,21D (Michie Supp. 1991) all cash bonuses, royalty payments or other payments attributable to any gas owner whose identity and location are unknown. Simultaneously with the filing of this application, Applicant has provided notice to each of the known parties set forth in Exhibit "C" pursuant to the provisions of Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.19A (Michie Supp. 1991). Applicant is providing notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each known person or entity having or claiming an interest in the gas, dil, coal and minerals underlying the Unit. The owners whose locations are unknown at the time of the filing of this application are shown on Exhibit "F". Applicant hereby notifies the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (hereinafter the "Board") that where the identity or location of any person or entity is unknown, or is shown as "unknown" on Exhibits "C", "D", or "F", then Applicant is unable to provide said person or entity with written notice of the application herein. Applicant hereby notifies the Board that where the identity or location of any person or entity is unknown, or is shown as "unknown" on Exhibits "C", "D", or "F", Applicant is providing such person or entity with notice by publication in a newspaper of general circulation pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.19 (Michie Supp. 1991). The gas interests of such persons and entities, whether known or unknown, should be pooled for the development and operation thereof. It is necessary, to prevent waste, to protect correlative rights, and to ensure the safe and efficient development and production of gas resources in the Commonwealth, that the Board hear this matter and adjudicate the rights and equities as between Applicant and the herein named persons and entities.

# Allegation of Facts:

- A. Description.
- 2.1 A description for the Unit area to be pooled is as follows:

A circular unit of 125.66 acres with a radius of 1320 feet extending from a point located on Virginia State Plane Coordinate N421718.6592, E968158.3482.

### B. Formations.

2.2 The target formation underlying the Unit which is to be produced is the Devonian Shale formation.

### C. Well.

2.3 The type of well proposed by this application is a gas well.

# D. Force Pooling.

- embraced within the Unit. There are separately owned interests in all or part of the Unit and a portion of those owning interests have not agreed to pool their interests.
- 2.5 Applicant currently has under lease 61.60% of the rights to develop and produce gas from the Unit. The parties named in Exhibit "D" are the gas owners who have not agreed to pool their interests in the Unit. These gas owners account for 38.40% of the Unit. Applicant has made a bona fide effort to reach an agreement with all known parties as to their interests for the development and operation of the Unit involved herein. Therefore, the interests of the gas owners in the Unit involved herein, whether known or unknown, should be pooled for the development and operation thereof.

#### E. Costs and Production.

2.6 The estimated average production for the well over its life is 26 mcfd. The estimated amount of reserves contained within the Unit is 0.3 bcf. These figures concerning

estimated production and the amount of reserves are, however, estimates only that are not based upon actual production.

- 2.7 The estimated cost of drilling, completing, and producing the well is shown on the Detailed Well Estimate attached as Exhibit "G".
- 3. Legal Authority. The relief sought by this
  Application is authorized by: (1) Va. Code Ann. §§45.1-361.1 et

  seq. (Michie Supp. 1991); (2) VR 480-05-22.1; (3) VR 480-05-22.2

  (1991); and, (4) such other regulations promulgated pursuant to law.
- 4. Relief Sought. Applicant respectfully requests the Board to enter an order as follows:
- (A) Pooling all the interests and estates of every individual or entity having an interest in the gas underlying the tracts in the Unit, whether known or unknown, the persons and entities having an interest in the gas underlying the tracts in the Unit named herein in Exhibit "C" and their known and unknown heirs, executors, and administrators, devisees, trustees, assigns and successors, both immediate and remote, for the drilling, development and production of gas from the Unit;
- (B) Designating Applicant, Ashland Exploration, Inc., as the Unit Operator ("Operator"); providing that the Operator shall have the right to drill, explore, develop, produce, market

and sell gas produced from the Unit; granting the Operator the right to drill at any permitted location on the Unit; and granting the Operator the right to operate the well drilled on the Unit;

entity named herein shall have the right to elect: (1) to assign or lease his/its gas interest in the Unit to the Operator; (2) to enter into a voluntary agreement with the Operator to share in the operation (including sharing in all reasonable costs of the drilling of the well and development of the Unit) at a rate of payment mutually agreed to by the person or entity making the election hereunder and the Operator herein; or, (3) to share in the operation of the well drilled on the Unit as a nonparticipating operator on a carried basis after the proceeds allocable to such person or entity's share equal the following:

In the case of a leased tract, 300 percent of the share of such costs allocable to such person or entity's interest; or,

In the case of an unleased tract, 200 percent of the share of such costs allocable to such person or entity's interest,

all as determined by the Board;

(D) Providing that any person or entity named herein who does not make a timely written election under the terms of the order to be entered herein shall be deemed to have leased

his/its gas interests in the Unit to the Operator at a rate to be established by the Board;

- (E) Providing that all reasonable costs and expenses of drilling, completing, equipping, operating, plugging and abandoning such well shall be borne, and all production therefrom shares, by all participating parties in the proportion which the acreage in the unitized tracts owned or under lease to each such participating party bears to the total acreage in the Unit;
- (F) Making provision for the payment of all reasonable costs of the operation, including a reasonable supervision fee to the Operator, by all parties who elect to participate therein or who elect to be carried interest owners;
- (G) Making all necessary provisions for the escrowing of proceeds in cases of unknown or unlocated owners of the gas underlying the Unit pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.21D (Michie Supp. 1991);
- (H) Providing that the order to be entered herein shall expire one (1) year from the date of this issuance if operations for the development of the Unit have not commenced by said date; but further providing that if operations have commenced during said one year period, then said order shall remain in effect for so long as operations continue on the Unit;
- (I) Providing that all nonleasing gas owners be provided with reasonable access to unit records submitted to the

Director of Mines, Minerals and Energy or to the Virginia Gas and Oil Inspector; and,

(J) Granting such other relief as is merited by the evidence and is just and equitable, whether or not such relief has been specifically requested herein.

DATED this \_\_\_\_day of // N, 1992.

ASHLAND EXPLORATION, INC.

J. Grant McGuire Attorney at Law Suite 1400 Coal Exchange Building P. O. Box 1835 Huntington, West Virginia 25719 (304) 529-2391

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#### CERTIFICATE

The foregoing Application to the best of my knowledge, information and belief is true and correct. Notice was given pursuant to Va. Code Ann. §45.1-361.19 (Michie Supp. 1991).

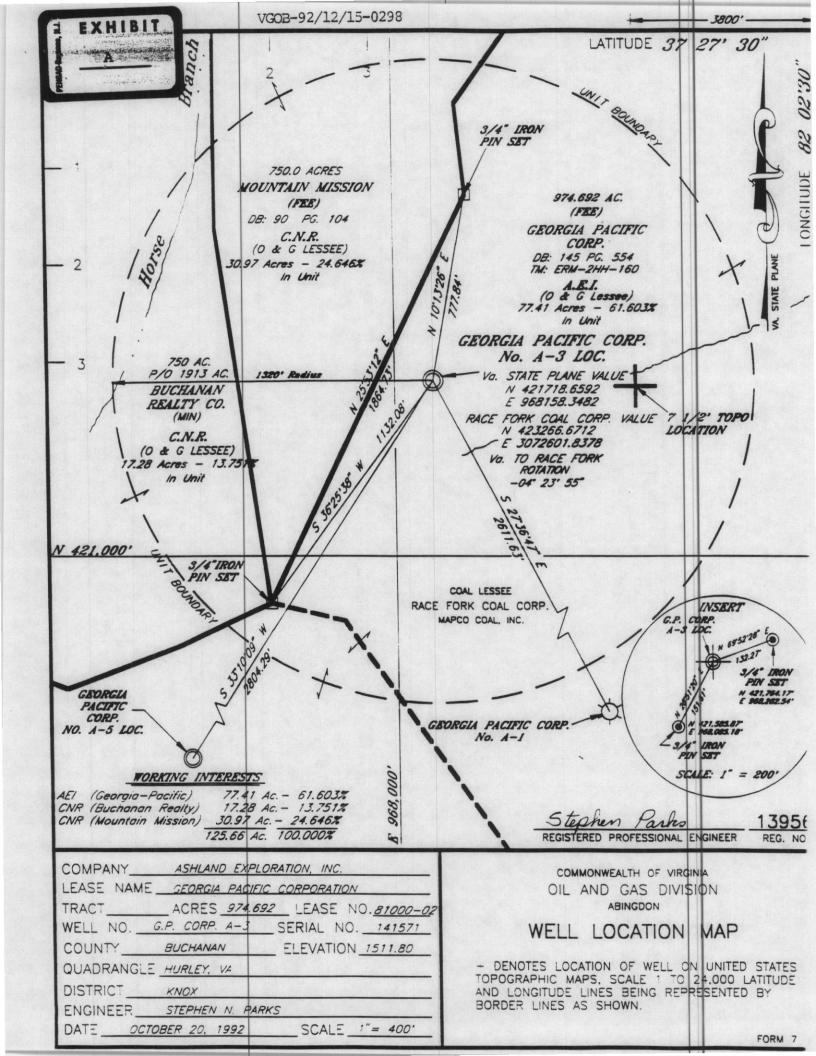
The undersigned further attests that the Well Location Map attached as Exhibit B conforms to existing order of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board.

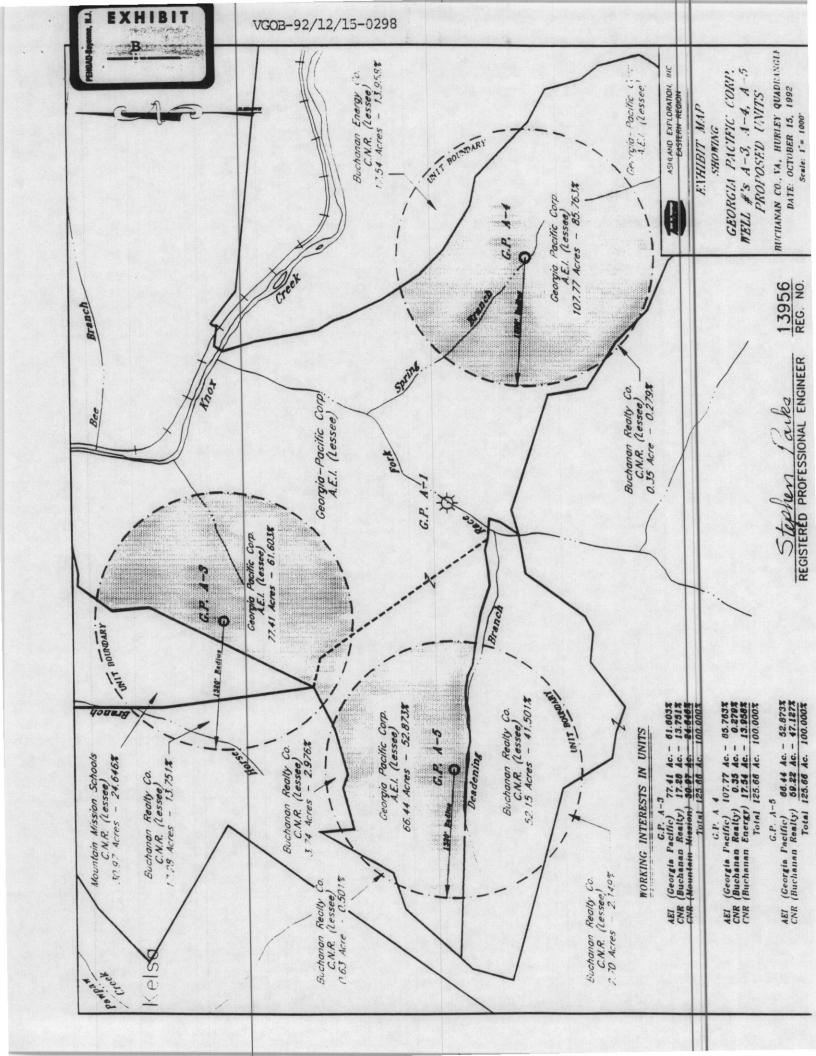
I, J. Grant McGuire, of counsel for Ashland Exploration, Inc., hereby certify that I have on this, the 12 day of 1992, caused the foregoing notice and application to be served upon all parties listed on Exhibit C, who have an interest in property within 2640 feet of Well G.P. A-3, at their address, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Dated this 12 day of 200, 1992.

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J. Grant McGuire Counsel for Ashland Exploration, Inc.





# EXHIBIT C

GAS, OIL, COAL AND MINERAL OWNER OR POTENTIAL OWNERS OF 125.66 ACRES			
I.	Fee	Ownership (Surface, Coal, Gas and	oil)
1.	P. (	rgia Pacific Corporation O. Box 105605 anta, Georgia 30348	77.41 Acres = 61.60%
2.	One	ntain Mission Schools Hurley Street ndy, Virginia 24614	48.25 Acres = 38.40%
II.	Buc Box	eral Ownership (Coal, Gas, Oil) hanan Realty Co. 663 ndy, Virginia 24614	17.28 Acres = 13.75%
III. Gas and Oil Leasehold Ownership			
	1.	Ashland Exploration, Inc. P. O. Box 391 Ashland, KY 41101	77.41 Acres = 61.60%
	2.	Columbia Natural Resources Attn: Danny Haught 900 Pennsylvania Avenue P.O. Box 6070 Charleston, WV 25362	48.25 Acres = 38.40%
IV. Coal Leasehold Ownership			
		Race Fork Coal Corp. P. O. Box 196 Hurley, Virginia 24620	125.66 Acres = 100%
V. Coalbed Methane Specific Leasehold Ownership			

None.

## EXHIBIT D

Unleased Owners and Potential Owner of Gas

Columbia Natural Resources 48.25 Acres = 38.40% Attn: Danny Haught 900 Pennsylvania Avenue P. O. Box 6070 Charleston, WV 25362

#### EXHIBIT E

## AFFIDAVIT OF DUE DILIGENCE

Comes the Affiant, J. Grant McGuire, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. Affiant is counsel for Ashland Exploration, Inc., and is authorized to execute this affidavit.
- 2. Ashland Exploration, Inc., has used due diligence to locate and serve all persons designated as gas, oil, coal or mineral owners having an interest underlying any tract located within the distances of proposed Well G.P. A-3 in Knox District, Buchanan County, Virginia, in accordance with Va. Code §45.1-361.19 and Section 4 of VR 480-05-22.2.
- 3. All known persons referenced above have been served with notice of the hearing. Any such persons whose names or locations are unknown have been notified by publication in accordance with Section 4 of the above-referenced regulation.

And further this Affiant sayeth not.

J. Grant McGuire

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF CABELL, TO-WIT:

Taken, subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned authority, this 1940 day of 1000 4, 1992.

My commission expires

Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

G.P.A-3

# EXHIBIT F

Unlocated Gas, Oil, Coal and Mineral Owners
None



